# Bahasa Isyarat Amerika

**Bahasa Isyarat Amerika** atau **American Sign Language** (**ASL**) adalah bahasa isyarat dominan dari komunitas tuli di Amerika Serikat dan sebagian besar anglofon Kanada. Disamping Amerika Utara, dialek-dialek ASL dan bahasa-bahasa kreol berbasis ASL digunakan di beberapa negara di seluruh dunia, termasuk sebagian besar Afrika Barat dan bagian-bagian Asia Tenggara. ASL juga banyak dipelajari sebagai bahasa kedua, disajikan sebagai lingua franca. ASL sangat berkaitkan dengan Bahasa Isyarat Prancis atau French Sign Language (LSF). Hal ini dinyatakan bahwa ASL adalah sebuah bahasa kreol dari LSF, meskipun ASL menunjukkan fitur-fitur khas bahasa kreol, seperti morfologi aglutinatif.

ASL bermula pada abad ke-19 di American School for the Deaf (ASD), Hartford, Connecticut, dari situasi kontak bahasa. Sejak itu, ASL banyak digunakan di sekolah-sekolah untuk kaum tuli dan organisasi komunitas tuli. Meskipun banyak digunakan, tidak ada keakuratan dari para pemakai ASL yang dipegang, meskipun diperkirakan pemakai ASL Amerika berkisar dari 250,000 sampai 500,000 orang, termasuk sejumlah anak dewasa tuli. Para pemakai ASL menghadapi stigma karena kepercayaan akan superioritas bahasa lisan untuk bahasa isyarat, disertai fakta bahwa ASL sering kali di-glosarium-kan dalam bahasa Inggris karena kurangnya sistem penulisan standar.

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# Pranala luar



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- Bahasa Isyarat Amerika (https://curlie.org/Science/Social_Sciences/Linguistics/Languages/Natural/Sign_Languages/American_Sign_Language/) di Curlie (dari DMOZ)
- Accessible American Sign Language dictionary (http://www.spreadthesign.com)
- One-stop resource American Sign Language and video dictionary (http://www.handspeak.com/)
- National Institute of Deafness ASL section (http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/hearing/pages/asl.aspx)
- National Association of the Deaf ASL information (http://www.nad.org/issues/american-sign-language)
- American Sign Language (http://www.lifeprint.com/)
- The American Sign Language Linguistics Research Project (http://www.bu.edu/asllrp/)
- Video Dictionary of ASL (http://commtechlab.msu.edu/sites/aslweb/browser.htm)